



**2015 SESSION**

**ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS**

**Business Page**

**[Signed by Chairman]**

**Roll Call**

**Standing Committee Reports**

**Tabled Bills**

**Fiscal Reports**

**Rolls Call Votes**

**Proxy Forms**

**Visitor Registrations**

**\*Any other documents, which were submitted after the committee hearing has ended and/or was submitted late [within 48 hours], regarding information in the committee hearing.**

**\*Witness Statements that were not presented as exhibits.**

**Montana Historical Society Archives**

**225 N. Roberts**

**Helena MT 59620-1201**

**2015 Legislative**

**E-Document Specialist Susie Hamilton**

**BUSINESS REPORT**

**MONTANA SENATE  
64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

**SENATE HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

**Date:** Tuesday, February 24, 2015  
**Place:** Capitol

**Time:** 3:00 PM  
**Room:** 405

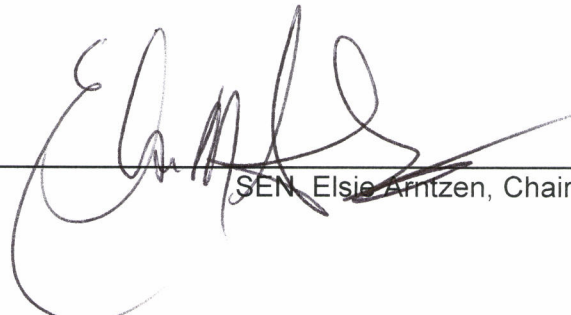
**BILLS and RESOLUTIONS HEARD:**

SB 369 - Requiring reductions in the use of certain chemical de-icers on Montana roads - Sen. Dee Brown

**EXECUTIVE ACTION TAKEN:**

SB 369, Do Pass  
SB 278, Motion to remove from table, motion failed

**Comments:**

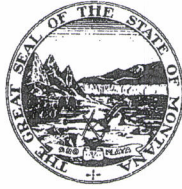


SEN. Elsie Amntzen, Chair

MONTANA STATE SENATE  
ROLL CALL  
HIGHWAYS AND  
TRANSPORTATION  
COMMITTEE

DATE: 2-24-2015 2015

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT/ EXCUSED
Chairman Arntzen	✓	
Vice Chair Vance	✓	
Senator Whitford	✓	
Senator Barrett	✓	
Senator Brown	✓	
Senator Buttrey	✓	
Senator Kaufmann	✓	
Senator Malek	✓	
Senator Sales	✓	✓
Senator Sands	✓	
Senator Taylor	✓	
Senator Thomas		✓



## SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

February 24, 2015

Page 1 of 1

Madame President:

We, your committee on **Highways and Transportation** report that **Senate Bill 369** (first reading copy -- white) **do pass**.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

*Senator Elsie Arntzen, Chair*

- END -

**Committee Vote:**

**Yes 7, No 5**

Fiscal Note Required   X  

SB0369001SC.spt



**MONTANA STATE SENATE**  
**Roll Call Vote**  
**HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

DATE 2-24-15 BILL NO SB369 MOTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
MOTION: Do Pass

*Motion carries 7-5*

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AYE</u>	<u>NO</u>	If Proxy Vote, check here & include signed Proxy Form with minutes
VICE CHAIR GORDON VANCE	✓		
SENATOR DICK BARRETT		✓	
SENATOR DEE BROWN	✓		
SENATOR ED BUTTREY		✓	
SENATOR CHRISTINE KAUFMANN	✓		
SENATOR SUE MALEK		✓	
SENATOR SCOTT SALES	✓		
SENATOR DIANE SANDS		✓	
SENATOR JANNA TAYLOR	✓		
SENATOR FRED THOMAS	✓		
SENATOR LEA WHITFORD, MVCH		✓	
CHAIR ELSIE ARNTZEN	✓		

*7-5*

**MONTANA STATE SENATE**  
**Roll Call Vote**  
**HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

DATE 2-24-15 BILL NO. SB278 MOTION NO. 6-6  
MOTION: \_\_\_\_\_

*Motion to remove from table*

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AYE</u>	<u>NO</u>	If Proxy Vote, check here & include signed Proxy Form with minutes
VICE CHAIR GORDON VANCE		✓	
SENATOR DICK BARRETT	✓		
SENATOR DEE BROWN		✓	
SENATOR ED BUTTREY		✓	
SENATOR CHRISTINE KAUFMANN	✓		
SENATOR SUE MALEK	✓		
SENATOR SCOTT SALES		✓	
SENATOR DIANE SANDS	✓		
SENATOR JANNA TAYLOR		✓	
SENATOR FRED THOMAS	✓		
SENATOR LEA WHITFORD, MVCH	✓		
CHAIR ELSIE ARNTZEN		✓	

**Tuesday, February 24, 2015**

Sponsor: **Sen. Dee Brown**

PLEASE PRINT

[illegible]

**Please leave prepared testimony with Secretary. Witness Statement forms are available if you care to submit written testimony.**



Madame Chair and members of the Highways & Transportation Committee, I am Senator Dee Brown from the beautiful Flathead valley in northwest Montana.

SB369 is my second attempt to get the Montana Department of Transportation to examine their policy on the use of chloride based de-icers which makes our blacktop look more like whitetop. Last session's bill required them to abandon the practice while this bill will require them to go to the historical levels used from 2007 through March of 2010.

The only person who has contacted me about the bill previously was named Mr. Morton from the Salt Institute in Washington, D.C. Imagine that...

Flathead people are proud of their pristine waters and do much to protect them, including the North Fork designation recently. We do not, however, weigh in strongly enough in state government to have them look at concerns from an environmental standpoint when chlorides are spread on our roads.

The MDOT would use the safety argument though I tend to believe that spreading the slurry increases the chance of an accident. We all drive too fast in the winter knowing that those wet roads are not the ice and gravel ones in the past. It's safer, right?

MDOT has increased the gallons of salt brine from just over a million gallons in 2007 to almost six million gallons in 2014. When is 'enough' - enough? When will they look at an alternative product which won't affect our water, vegetation and wildlife (such as the sheep lapping it up near Thompson Falls)?

Constituents have discussed the nature of the products eating away at their vehicles causing unsafe brakes and corroded parts. My family didn't have that to deal with years ago in the Flathead since sand was the primary road compound. The department notes that the use of sand has decreased in the last ten years. I wouldn't say the substitution was the best way to go. I would much rather have sand and rocks in the bottom of the river and in Flathead Lake than I would the chloride compounds.

How long could I throw out 80 pound sacks of salt per mile on Flathead roads and get away with it? Not long, I would guess. It's time to stand for cutting back on this environmental wreck which is in its infancy. Let's pressure MDOT to lessen the cost of future disaster to the Montana we know and love.

Montana's healthy environment depends on your stand today. Salt should coat the rim of a margarita glass, not our roadways.

Dee Brown, SD 2





Additional Documents  
IDENTITY - Certificate of Transportation  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_